

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☒

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/18 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted With Initial Filing <b>OR</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)	Attorney Docket Number	717119.336
	First Named Inventor	Johnson, John E.
	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	Application Number	10/604,306
	Filing Date	July 9, 2003
	Group Art Unit	3643
Examiner Name	Not yet known	

**As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:**

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

NEURAL CONDUIT SPINAL CORD REMOVER

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YY)

07/09/03

as United States Application Number or PCT International (if applicable).

Application Number

10/604,306

and was amended on (MM/DD/YY)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
			<input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

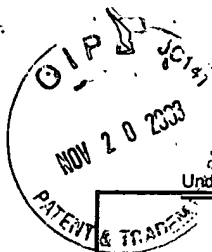
☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.
60/394,691	07/09/2002	

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SENT TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Design, Washington, DC 20231.



**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)**

Applicant/Patent Owner: John E. Johnson,

Application No./Patent No.: 10/604,306 Filed/Issue Date: July 9, 2003

Entitled: NEURAL CONDUIT SPINAL CORD REMOVER

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., a Corporation  
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or  
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.  
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is \_\_\_\_\_ %

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.  
2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.  
3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

- ☒ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

10-14-03  
Date

Eugene D. Leman  
Typed or printed name  
Eugene D. Leman  
Signature  
Sr. Group Vice President, Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.  
Title

COPY

PATENT  
Mtr # 717119.336

## ASSIGNMENT


WHEREAS, John E. Johnson, a resident of Jefferson, South Dakota, (hereinafter referred to as "Assignor"), is the inventor of a certain new and useful invention relating to a NEURAL CONDUIT SPINAL CORD REMOVER for which application for Letters Patent has been made as U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/394,691 that was filed on July 9, 2002, and for which application for Letters Patent has been made as U.S. Patent Application No. 10/604,306 that was filed on July 9, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Assignor is the owner and in full possession of the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any and all Letters Patent that may be granted therefor; and

WHEREAS, Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, (hereinafter referred to as "Assignee"), having its principal office and place of business at 800 Stevens Port Drive, Suite 836, Dakota Dunes, South Dakota, 57049, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any and all Letters Patent that may be granted therefor; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (U.S. \$1.00) and other valuable considerations to Assignor paid by said Assignee, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignor does hereby sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and in and to any and all Letters Patent, both United States and foreign, that may be granted therefor, together with any and all continuations, divisions, or reissues, and Assignor does hereby authorize and request the United States

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto set his hand and seal.

  
John E. Johnson

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto attached my hand and notarial seal, at the County and State aforesaid on the day and year last above written.

**Sandra E. Mueller**  
**Notary Public State of Iowa**  
**Commission No. 715550**  
**My Commission Expires March 14, 2025**



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☒

PTO/SB/81 (10-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<b>POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT</b>	Application Number	10/604,306
	Filing Date	July 9, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Johnson, John E.
	Group Art Unit	3643
	Examiner Name	Unknown
	Attorney Docket Number	717119.336

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners at Customer Number 27128 → Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
Label here

☐ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

☐ The above-mentioned Customer Number.

**OR**


☐ Firm or Individual Name

Address				
Address				
City		State		Zip
Country				
Telephone		Fax		

I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor.

☒ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.7.1.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record	
Name	Eugene D. Leman, Sr. Group Vice President, Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.
Signature	
Date	10-14-03

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

☒ \*Total of 1 forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement; This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231  
DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☒

PTO/SB/18 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: ☒ Customer Number 27128 OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name Mark E. Stallion

Address Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP

Address 720 Olive Street, Suite 2400

City St. Louis

State Missouri

ZIP 63101

Country US

Telephone 314-345-6000

Fax 314-345-6060

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name  
(first and middle (if any)) John E.

Family Name  
Or Surname Johnson

Inventor's  
Signature 

Date 10/7/03

Residence City: Jefferson

State SD

Country US

Citizenship US

Mailing Address 866 Brookside Drive

Mailing Address

City Jefferson

State SD

ZIP 57038

Country US

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name  
(first and middle (if any))

Family Name  
Or Surname

Inventor's  
Signature

Date

Residence City:

State

Country

Citizenship

Mailing Address

Mailing Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the \_\_ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.